SAINT FRANCIS CHAPEL
Staffed by the Oblates of the Virgin Mary
Encountering the Heart of Christ in the Heart of Boston

Fourth Sunday of Lent — March 31, 2019
If you would like an offertory envelope sent to you on a regular basis, please fill out one of the blue cards in the chapel entrance and drop it off at the Gift Shop. Thank you for your continued support. God bless you!

Volunteers Needed
Oblates of the Virgin Mary Annual Gala on April 27, 2019
Boston Seaport Hotel
Plaza Ballroom

If interested, please contact oblategala@omvusa.org

If you would like to contribute to the Chapel by text, please text the word CHAPEL, leave a space and then the dollar amount to 617-209-2779. Thank you for your generosity!

Mar 31 2019
The Icon of Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians

During the Supreme Convention last August in Baltimore, the Knights of Columbus launched its 18th Marian Prayer Program—this year featuring an icon of “Our Lady Help of Persecuted Christians,” created by Italian artist Fabrizio Diomedi.

Created by Italian iconographer Fabrizio Diomedi, this icon depicts the Blessed Mother, with the Child Jesus over her heart, spreading her protective mantle around a representative gathering of recent Christian martyrs—men and women, young and old, from East and West; priests, religious and laypersons, including one of the six priest-members of the Knights of Columbus who were killed by the Mexican government in the first half of the 20th century. The four crosses represent an “ecumenism of blood” among martyrs of Roman and Eastern Catholicism, as well as those of Coptic, Armenian, Syriac and Orthodox traditions.

As the icons travel on their individual journeys, we have encouraged our Knights to track their experiences on social media using the hashtag #FollowingMary.

A Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Lent
by Fr. James Doran, OMV

The 4th Sunday of Lent is called “Laetare” due to the Gregorian antiphon of the Introit of the Mass taken from the book of the Prophet Isaiah:

Laetare, Jerusalem: et conventum facite omnes qui diligitis eam: gaudete cum laetitia, qui in tristitia fuistis: ut exultetis, et satiemini ab ubernus consolationis vestrae.

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia says: Strictly speaking, the Thursday before Laetare Sunday is the middle day of Lent, and it was at one time observed as such, but afterwards the special signs of joy permitted on this day, intended to encourage the faithful in their course through the season of penance, were transferred to the Sunday following. They consist of (like those of Gaudete Sunday in Advent) the use of flowers on the altar of the organ at Mass and Vespers; rose-colored vestments are also allowed instead of purple.

The collect for Laetare Sunday: O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ…

Divine Mercy Novena
Mass Cards
Now available in the Chapel entrance

Mass Intentions This Week

Sunday March 31
8:00 AM Alba Osuna — healing
9:15 AM Deceased Members of the Picardi Family
10:30 AM + Estrella Pinto
11:45 AM + James Russell Patricelli
1:15 PM (esp) Agradecimiento al Sagrado Corazón de Jesus
4:00 PM + Kamal Abu Hussein
5:30 PM + George Salvaggio

Monday, April 1
8:00 AM Br. Francis, FPO
12:05 PM Souls in Purgatory
4:45 PM + Alexandra Whipple — anniversary

Tuesday, April 2
8:00 AM Amparo Tobón — birthday
12:05 PM + Paul Salemi
4:45 PM Michael Campbell

Wednesday, April 3
8:00 AM Richard & Carol McCulloch — health
12:05 PM + Pam Flynn
4:45 PM Sierra Parker

Thursday, April 4
8:00 AM Francy Cunniffe
12:05 PM + Maria Gallo
4:45 PM María Estefanía Ruiz — conversion and healing

Friday, April 5
8:00 AM Armen A. — health
12:05 PM Richard & Carol McCulloch — health
4:45 PM Alba Osuna — healing

Saturday, April 6
9:00 AM + Matthew Galinda
12:00 PM + Ercilia Nunez
4:00 PM + Fabio Heredia
5:30 PM + Ted Mortell
7:00 PM (esp) + Cruz Elena Garces

Feast Days This Week

April 2: St. Francis of Paola
Hermit

April 4: St. Isidore
Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Patron of the Internet

April 5: St. Vincent Ferrer
Priest

Enroll your loved ones in a novena of Masses beginning on Divine Mercy Sunday
The Oblates of the Virgin Mary is an international religious community of priests and brothers serving in Italy, France, Austria, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Nigeria, the United States and the Philippines. The Oblates are involved in retreat and parish missions, spiritual direction, parish work, the mass media, clergy formation, and the foreign missions.

The US Province of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary is dedicated to St. Ignatius of Loyola, and includes communities in Massachusetts, Illinois, Colorado, California and the Philippines.

The OMV US Province House is at St. Clement’s in Boston.

The OMV motto, “MARIAM COGITA, MARIAM INVOCAT” “THINK OF MARY, CALL ON MARY” is taken from a homily by St. Bernard.